

Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is legally questionable and casts doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Please require Pappas immediately to donate, dollar for dollar, an equal share of airtime to Democratic candidates in the days before this crucial election.